

Harry Piess,
"Stanger" Keigwin
Oct. 30th, 1894.

Comp. H. B. Piess
W. L. Piess

1843.

1893.

DARTMOUTH
Baptist Church.

— JUBILEE CELEBRATION —

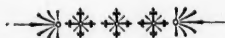
— AND —

WELCOME SERVICE,

Held December 7th, 1893,

— WITH —

List of Officers and Members.



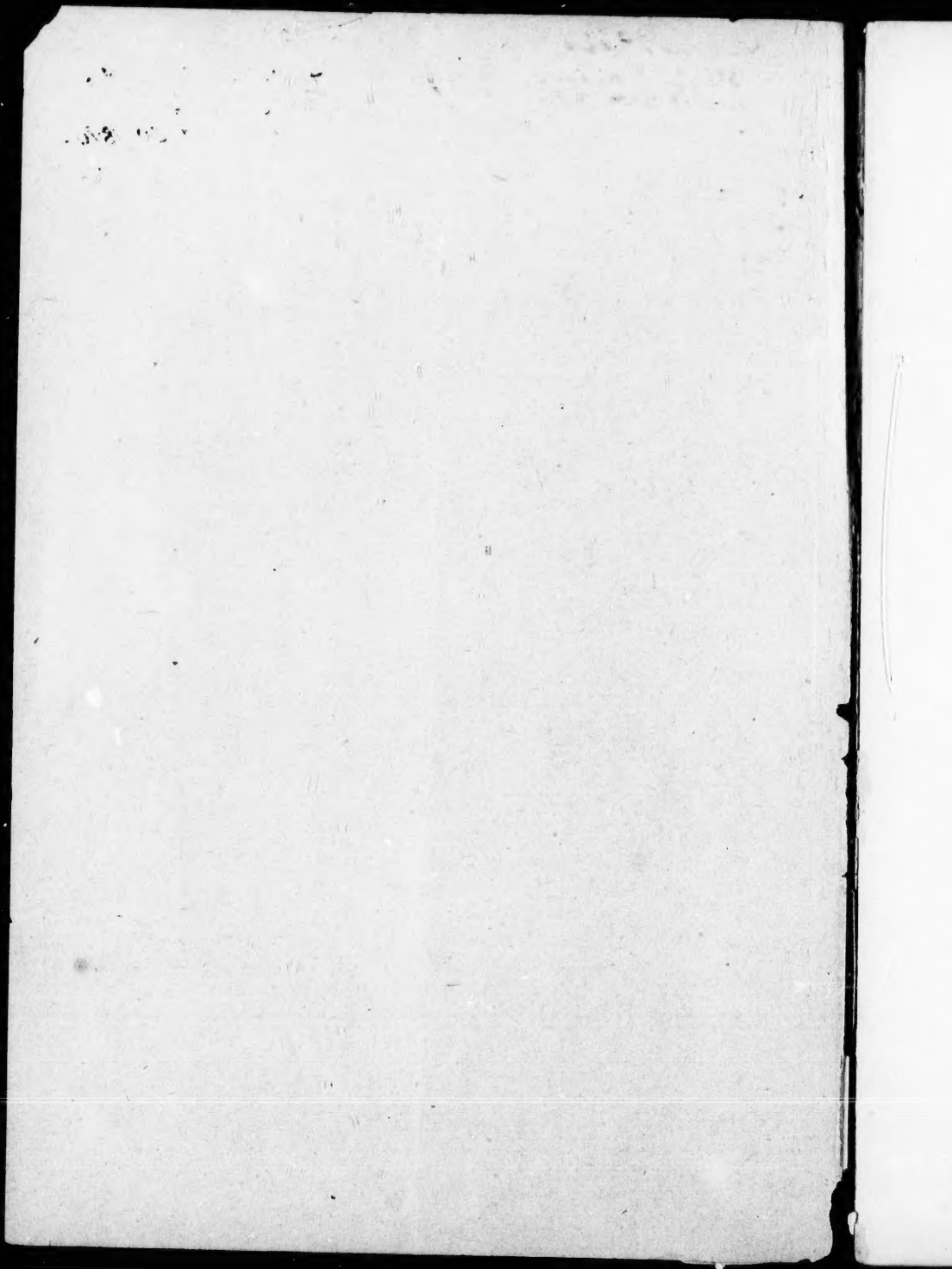
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Harry Piers.

Oct. 30, 1894.

THE FIRST
Dartmouth Baptist Church,

KING'S STREET, DARTMOUTH.

Jubilee Celebration and Reception Meeting.

On the evening of THURSDAY, December 7th, 1893, the DARTMOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH met to celebrate its FIRST JUBILEE, and to welcome to their pulpit their newly elected pastor the Rev. Samuel Bradford Kempton.

A committee of the Church under the direction and guidance of Brother W. H. Fielding had gaily decorated the vestry for the occasion with flags, flowers, and evergreens, and mottoes in varied colored letters.

The ladies of the Church prepared a sumptuous tea and repast to which they invited the members of the Church and congregation and their friends. When all had partaken, the remainder of the time was passed in social intercourse and friendly reunions until 7.30; at which hour the assemblage moved into the body of the Church which was well filled by an expectant audience.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Judge Johnston, who read the Jubilee hymn No. 305 of the Canadian Baptist hymnal commencing "Blow ye the trumpet blow," which was sung by the choir, a portion of Scripture was read and prayer offered by the Rev. Stephen March. The chairman then stated that fifty years from the organization of the Church had fallen on the twenty-ninth day of October last, but that in consequence of their pastor elect not having at that date assumed the duties of his

office, it was thought better to postpone the services until he was settled over the Church, and then to combine the Jubilee and the welcome celebration.

On the platform were the pastor, the Rev. E. J. Grant, a former pastor of the Church and the Rev. R. R. Philp who had at one time occupied the pulpit, and also the Revds. Stephen March, Arthur C. Chute, W. E. Hall and D. G. McDonald the pastors of the Halifax city and Quinpool Road Baptist Churches, and the Rev. Thomas Stewart resident pastor of the Dartmouth Presbyterian Church. Rev. Mr. Johnson the resident Methodist minister was compelled on account of ill health to decline an invitation to be present. The several gentlemen who had filled the pastorate and brethren and sisters who had formerly been connected with the Church but who had severed their connection in consequence of removal from Dartmouth, as far as it was possible to reach them were invited to attend; distance and other circumstances rendered it impossible for many of them to personally respond, they all however, sent letters evincing their deep interest in the Church and wishing for it continued success and prosperity.

A full size portrait of the Rev. Abraham Spurr Hunt, the first pastor of the Church occupied a conspicuous place at one side of the platform.

The following remarks embracing the opening address of the chairman are published by request.

ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN.

Gentlemen and Ladies,—

Fifty years in the life of a nation is but a short period indeed a people that can only count half a century from their birth, may be said to be still in their infancy, and scarce out of swaddling clothes.

Looking backward, and not stopping to note the growth of and the advances that have occurred in the physical world, we can see that during the past half century, changes many and multiform have occurred in the religious and moral life of the people.

Theories and doctrines then held in reverence and high esteem

have been by many abandoned as effete, old fashioned, and of little value in an age so progressive as the present.

The battering ram of agnosticism and infidelity are to-day pounding at the buttresses of a Christianity in defence of which our forefathers of fifty years gone, would if need had been, have freely bled and died.

Fifty years tell for much in individual life, a large proportion never attain that age, and those who do, have travelled over the longest portion of their allotted journey.

The man who has turned the mile stone of half a century misses many familiar faces as he treads the dusty road of life, he looks around for the friends of his boyish days, and the companions of his early manhood—where are they? with but few exceptions, gone, all gone: and he finds himself left, standing alone, like some old oak tree that has bravely breasted the storms and smiled at the howling blasts of the passing years, as they have swept out from their path way and laid low many younger and apparently hardier trees of the forest.

Such is the rule that governs man's physical being and such the price inexorably demanded for the privilege of an extended life.

How fares it with the Church, made up as it is, of men and women; does the rule of individual life apply to it, and is it subject to like vicissitudes and changes?

To a limited extent only.

During the term of any five decades the personnel of the Church will almost, if not entirely, have changed. Within that period it will have experienced many ups and downs, will have known seasons of gloom and despondency, and will have been refreshed by times of joy and of gladness.

But the similarity is no further traceable.

Man comes on the stage, plays his little part, and just when he thinks that he has learned how to live, he is snatched away, and the place that knew him once, knows him no more for ever.

The social wheel is ever slowly revolving, and families and individuals who fifty years ago, rode upon the crest of the wave, are now buried in oblivion, and their very names forgotten.

The memory of a man soon fades away, no matter how large the space he has filled or how important the work or vast the projects, the fate of which seemingly hang upon the thread of his existence. But the vicissitudes of life and the ravages of time touch not the Church, nor do the changing creeds of men, or their

varying moral beliefs affect its stability. For amid all uncertainties one thing is certain, amid all changes, one thing is changeless, one thing sure, men may come and men may go, but the Church of the living God, goes on forever and forever. Yes forever: whether like the noble river, ever deepening, ever widening, it rushes forward on its course, bearing on its heaving bosom and scattering far and wide as it sweeps majestically onward, leaves for the healing of the nations; or whether like the small and unpretending brook scarce noticed by the hurrying passer by, placidly and quietly it ripples along its pebbly bed, glad, if some way farer travelled stained and worn, shall linger awhile and rest him on her sunny grassy bank or stoop and slack his thirst with her refreshing sparkling waters.

The Church knows no change, time writes no wrinkles on her brow, she stands on a foundation firm and immovable as the everlasting hills and enduring as the throne of the Eternal.

Our records shew, that during the half century just completed, the personnel of this Branch of the Church, has almost entirely changed, and that of those who on the 29th day of October, A. D., 1843, organized themselves into the Dartmouth Baptist Church, but one survives and she a widow of ninety years and upwards, who though not able to meet with us regularly in consequence of increasing bodily infirmities, yet whom in the full possession of all her faculties we have the pleasure of welcoming amongst us on this Jubilee occasion—the sole link that connects the past with the present. But though its individual members in quick succession have come and passed away yet the Church itself founded on that rock against which the gates of Hell shall ne'er prevail, during all these years has never lost her visibility.

Mr. Hunt was ordained the first minister over the Church, and had he continued in charge, the indications were that his ministrations would have resulted in large increase to the membership. He however at the end of a year and a half resigned the pastorate and left to pursue his theological studies.

It will not be necessary to trespass on your time by travelling over the years that followed this resignation, their history will be presented to your notice when the records of the Church from its commencement is laid before you.

In the year 1876 the Rev. Mr. Hunt returned to Dartmouth in response to the invitation of the Church and resumed the pastorate and labored with us for ten years when he was called to higher service above. He found the interest in Dartmouth small

and the Baptists not much more than holding their own, but during his incumbency he lighted a candle in the Church whose brightness has never dimmed, and infused a life and vigour into the dry bones they have never lost.

Since that time, the Baptist cause has though slowly yet steadily increased; still we do not anticipate any very rapid progress in the near future. Several considerations lead to this conclusion, chief among these I note, that this Church has not so far secured all the Dartmouth Baptist strength and influence, those who if they cast in their lot with us, would have brought us substantial aid and materially assisted in our growth and development prefer to cross over to Halifax and worship in city churches, while the influx of Baptist families into Dartmouth whom we might reasonably hope would join our ranks, are like angels' visits few and far between, and the field which we have to occupy and cultivate is, owing to other causes more limited than it was when the interest was first started. Meanwhile this Church will continue to scatter the good seed of the word beside all waters, assured that the reaping time, though it may be long delayed will eventually come, and humbly trusting that when the angel reapers shall cry harvest home, the Dartmouth Baptist Church will have some sheaves to be gathered into the garner house of the Lord of the Harvest.

This evening the Church stands on the summit of half a century; before it stretches the wide sea of fifty years to come, behind it lies the now tranquil waters of fifty years past.

But ere that past becomes a memory, we pause and cast one glance backward, for mayhap within the scroll that holds the record of all these years, we may find inscribed experiences which recalled in days of cloud and gloom, will cheer and encourage, revive our drooping spirits, prove a spur to our flagging zeal and light up with love and hope our onward steps—and as we gaze slowly the scroll unrolls and we behold a panorama of the half century just fled. One by one the various scenes depicted on the canvas pass before our view. The first picture portrays the goodness and mercy that has followed this church from its organization. Another represents the Father's hand in times of doubt and perplexity indicating the path to tread; and the Father's arm thrown around to support the Church when it stumbled in the way so that the trip should not become a fall. The next picture presented is one of sombre hue yet shading off into light.

A black cloud overhangs the Church, gloom casts its darkest

shadows all around, bewildered and perplexed the members grope their uncertain way, but when the sable pall hung lowest and heaviest, and hope had all but died out they turned their despondent eyes upward, when lo, a gleam of light pierces the blackness, the cloud begins to move, and as it rolls away the astonished gazers beheld what they might have perceived before had they only looked, that its lining was of burnished silver, and its sheen beyond the brightness of the noon day sun. The panorama moves once more, the scene changes. The picture is fringed with wreaths of amaranthine flowers entwined among which, we catch glimpses of the infinite kindness that during all these years had been so pitiful to the Church's little faith, while the canvas itself is bathed in a halo of light, luminous with the brightness of Heaven, and lustrous with glory beams flashed from the dazzling sapphire throne of God; and through which we see floating in brilliant colors of grace and beauty the love that flung the mantle of a Saviour's righteousness over the Church. He had died to redeem, and concealed within its folds all the mistakes, all the failures, and all the derelictions of duty of fifty years.

Now ring the curtain down as with enthusiasm fired, love rekindled and trust and hope strengthened from these scenic representations we leave our past and pressing forward bravely face the future.

Onward glides the ship that carries this Church from the now tranquil waters of fifty years gone into the sea of half a century to come; a sea all unknown, on whose heaving bosom a sail has never floated, whose depths no line has ever sounded, and whose hidden rocks and treacherous shoals are mapped on no chart accessible to mortal eye.

What gales may sweep across that sea we know not. Whether through still waters and impelled by favouring breezes, the ship be wafted on her course, or whether strong and adverse currents may impede her way, or contrary winds retard her progress, no prescience of ours can divine. But of this one thing we are assured, that He who once on a stormy sea quelled the winds and bade the waves be still, will command our little barque and so though the winds should howl, and the tempests roar, and the waters lashed into foaming seething billows, toss our vessel up and down, and even threaten to engulf it in the abyss of angry waters; we will not, we cannot fear, for we know our pilot's hand will grasp the helm. Then be our course, through light or dark, through sunshine or shade, be the weather fair or foul, tempestuous

or calm, whate'er betide we trust our captain's skill to guide us safely to the farther shore, and into that haven of the heavenly world where the church triumphant shall forever peacefully ride upon the placid sea of glass, whose crystallized waters will never be so much as ruffled by the winds and storm capt waves of ignorance, error, discord, sin and skepticism; with whose surging billows the church militant has so often buffeted as she voyaged across this world's troublous sea.

How will read the record of this Church when the coming fifty years shall have run their course, what will then its standing be? Ah, he would be a bold seer who in this changing world would scan the horoscope and dare with certainty to fortell. But may we not venture to hope, that those who shall gather to celebrate its centennial will find this Church large and influential, worshipping in a more pretentious edifice than its present audience hall, and that having developed into a stately tree of goodly proportions its far spreading branches has afforded rest and shelter to a number ever increasing as the years go by, and that having thrown out its tendrils hither and thither, far and wide it has become the foster mother of many other Baptist Churches.

In the meantime the Church of to-day will in humble trust and confidence pursue its way doing the duty that lies next to it, and leaving the future to be moulded by Him who with sleepless eye has ever watched over his Church, and who as an eagle fluttereth over her young and beareth them on her wings has cared for, protected, and led his people on, and whose gracious promise, "Lo I am with you alway even unto the end of the world," so precious and so strengthening in the past, will in the years to come still be the Church's stay and sure support, reviving her faith when drooping, stimulating her to attempt, and with confidence to expect great things, and mid lowering skies, and when murky mists curtain the day, and in hours of darkest despondency inspire her to do and to dare.

At the conclusion of his address the Chairman called upon the clerk, Mr. William L. Barss, who presented the record of the Church from the date of its organization on the 29th Dec., 1843, to the 29th October, 1893, embracing the fifty years of its history. This paper which was listened to with marked attention is published in extenso herewith.

The Rev. D. G. McDonald then made some forcible remarks

pertinent to the occasion, and was followed by the Rev. E. J. Grant, who in most sympathetic and warm hearted language feelingly referred to his former connection with the Church, and the great pleasure that the recollection of his pastorate always afforded him, his tribute to the memory of some members of the Church whom he had been accustomed to see before him when he officiated from the sacred desk but who would never more fill their wonted places in the pews, was tender and most touching. Mr. John Nallier, a former member, Deacon and Superintendent of the Sunday School and who had come from a distance to be present at the Jubilee exercises was next called upon, and in a few pleasing remarks referred to the interest he continued to take in the Church in which he had spent many happy years, and to his connection with the Sunday School.

WELCOME AND RECEPTION EXERCISES.

The Chairman introduced the pastor elect to the audience stating that he was the unanimous choice of the Church, and that from his well known character and large experience as well as from his acknowledged pulpit ability he expected great benefit to the Church and congregation, while his affability and kindly sympathetic nature would personally endear him to all with whom he came in contact; and that he was assured that as time went on, the Church and congregation would increasingly feel that as far as they were concerned Mr. Kempton was the right man in the right place. He then read the 602 hymn in the Canadian Baptist hymnal, "We bid thee welcome in the name," as embodying the Church's welcome to their pastor which was feelingly sung by the choir and enthusiastically joined in by the audience. The Rev. W. E. Hall in a few choice words expressed the great pleasure he had on behalf of the Baptists of the city and county in extending to the pastor elect the right hand of fellowship and of cordially welcoming him as one of the ministerial fraternity, and the great good to the cause that he anticipated from Mr. Kempton's settlement in Dartmouth. The Rev. Mr. Stewart then tendered him a cordial welcome in the name and on behalf of the other religious denominations of the town.

The Rev. Mr. Kempton in a most felicitous address thanked

the several speakers and the Church for their cordial greeting and expressed the hope that his advent among them might be divinely blessed to the Church and congregation.

The Rev. Mr. Chute then gave an excellent charge to the Church setting forth the duties that the Church owed to their pastor, and pointed out how those duties might be best discharged: the Rev. gentlemen with a beaming smile told the audience that he always considered himself as being closely identified with this Church in as much as he had selected as his help mate for life the choicest lamb to be found in the Dartmouth Baptist fold.

The exercises were interspersed with anthems and recherché music well rendered by the choir. At the close the McDonald Brothers of Halifax sang a duet entitled, "Fling out the standard," in a style that was highly appreciated by the audience. The Pastor pronounced the Benediction, and the company well pleased adjourned to meet again on the 29th of October, 1943.



HISTORICAL SKETCH
OF THE
Dartmouth Baptist Church,
FOR THE PERIOD OF
FIFTY YEARS FROM A. D., 1843 to A. D., 1893.

The organization known as the Dartmouth Baptist Church, whose jubilee we celebrate this evening, was brought into existence on Sunday the 29th day of October, 1843. Before recounting the proceedings of that memorable day it may be permitted me to present some of the reasons which prevailed in the minds of those who undertook this important step.

The church records furnish us with the following explanation of the motives which led to the formation of this church:—"A small number of Baptists residing at Dartmouth and its vicinity, some of the Granville Street Church in Halifax, and others not in communion with any church have long deliberated on the expediency of uniting in church fellowship. To some the expense of ferriage forms a barrier to attendance in the city; to others the distance makes it inconvenient, and to all the breaking up the peace of the Sabbath together with the delay of the boat for more than an hour is painful." With these considerations before them the persons just mentioned held a meeting in Dartmouth, and with prayer and supplication unanimously passed the following resolutions:—

"Resolved that we judge it expedient as soon as possible to be constituted into a church of Christ of the same faith and order with the Baptist Churches of Nova Scotia, and severally resolve in the strength of God to strengthen each others hands in the undertaking.

That it is expedient for the accommodation of Divine Worship to engage a room for a year at a rent not exceeding five or six pounds. That we correspond with ministers of the Gospel and

obtain a visit from some one, to encourage us in our spiritual enterprise, and that brother Richard McLean hold that correspondence. That we shall meet for Divine Worship every Sabbath morning at 11 o'clock and at half past 7 in the evening and as soon as convenient we hold one weekly evening meeting. That our intention be published in the *Christian Messenger* in order to explain our views to our Christian brethren and to solicit their prayers in our behalf." This meeting was held on the 17th of May, 1843. In accordance with these resolutions a council composed of Elder John Knox and several brethren of the Halifax Church met with the Dartmouth brethren and advised them to organize a church in this place. The written account of the meeting to organize is in the following words: "On Sabbath day 29th October, 1843, Elder John Knox after stating the duties of church members to each other and to the world read the letters of dismissal and gave the right hand of fellowship to the following members:—Brethren Richard McLearn, John Huxtable, W. L. Evans and sisters Ann Wilson and Ann Huxtable from the Halifax Church; also to Henry Donaldson and Jane Donaldson from the 2nd Church in Plainfield, New Jersey. And these brethren thus organized received into their fellowship brethren Henry Keeler and Edward Marr and sister Marr; brother Huxtable was chosen deacon and the ordinance of the Lord's Supper administered." This meeting was held in the evening at Dartmouth in a room of the dwelling of brother Evans, and who can doubt that the invisible Christ was not there in the midst of them.

All these so far as we can ascertain, with the exception of sister Susan Meagher who is present with us to-night, have one by one been laid to rest. Our sister Meagher whose life has been graciously prolonged far beyond the time usually allotted to us here, patiently waits till her Master's voice shall also bid her come up higher. Her great delight in times past, when life was less feeble than at present, was to meet with the members of this church and bear witness to the wondrous love and mercy of God in his dealings with her.

The late Edward Meagher, her husband, and Henry Keeler her father, were both members of this church till the time of their deaths. Their lives remain to us a record of long and faithful service in behalf of this church.

Mr. Keeler was baptized on the same day as his daughter, Mrs. Meagher, in the Bedford Basin by Elder Davis, but he did not become a member of any church previous to his reception as a

McLearn

member of this church. The influence of his Christian life has been made a blessing to his descendants many of whom are to-day numbered among our members and worthily following in his footsteps. With the exception of these two last named brethren and the Rev. Richard McLearn of whom we shall speak presently, none of the original members of this church were connected with it at the time of their death.

To none of its members now dead or living is this church more indebted for its existence than to the late Reverend Richard McLearn. Regarding his great devotion to the interests of this church it has been written. "The church at Dartmouth was greatly indebted to him and would have become extinct but for his efforts." During its seasons of depression and in its many struggles for existence this church ever found in him a wise counsellor and a faithful supporter. Owing to physical infirmity that forbade his preaching it was not permitted him to assume the entire pastoral charge of the church, but during his long connection with it as his strength permitted he was accustomed when called upon to supply the pulpit and administer the ordinances, and for some time performed as well the duties of both Clerk and Treasurer. He died at Dartmouth on the 16th of August, 1860. A simple marble stone in the old burying ground marks his last resting place. His voice we shall hear no more, but his life and labors abundant, yet speak to us and remind us how much good can be accomplished by one truly consecrated life.

For nearly a year after its organization the church met for worship in a little old building on Quarl Street; about where our present public school building now stands. The church had at this time no regular pastor, Elders Robertson of St. John, N. B., and Cogswell are referred to during this period in connection with the services of the church. Eight members were added to the church the first year, five of these were by baptism. At the association held at Cornwallis on the 26th of June, 1844, this church was duly recognized and received into the association. The messenger sent was William Hobbs, and the total membership reported was 18.

The next important event in its history is briefly told as follows:—"Sabbath, September, 1844, the new meeting house built by subscription for the use of Dartmouth Baptist Church and congregation was opened by Brother A. S. Hunt and Elder John Masters of New Brunswick." The site of "the new Meeting House," then so called is identical with that whereon the present

church edifice now stands. The original structure removed a little in the rear has by no means yet out-lived its usefulness, but having been connected with its more modern rival is used for our Sabbath school and prayer meetings. Thus now we have the church duly organized and the church home built and dedicated, but something equally essential to these is still wanting. Doubtless these men of faith and prayer while watching the progress of their church building towards completion, were earnestly calling upon God to send them a Pastor. That there were prayers in this behalf and that they were answered speedily, appears from the following account of the call and ordination of the late Rev. Abram S. Hunt the first pastor of this church:—"Shortly after the above period at a meeting of the church it was agreed to give Brother Hunt a call to the pastoral charge of the church. He had labored among us as a licentiate for two or three months." The call was accepted by Mr. Hunt and on Sabbath day the 10th day of November, 1844, the ordination services as arranged by the Council the day previous took place. We have it of record that "upon this very interesting occasion the house was filled to overflowing with an attentive congregation."

At the association held at Amherst on the 30th June following 11 additions by baptism were reported and the total membership 29, and the year following 5 baptisms were reported, with a membership of 34. The first pastorate which had this far proved so successful was not long to continue. Brother Hunt a short time previous to his assuming the charge of this church, had graduated at Acadia College, and he was not slow to realize that greater usefulness could be attained by taking a course in Theology. He consequently decided to avail himself of the instruction which could then be obtained at Wolfville under the late Dr. Crawley. This he made known to the church and at a meeting held on the 31st of July, 1846, the following resolution was passed. "Voted that whereas the pastor, brother Abram S. Hunt, has signified his intention of removing from this place, brethren Richard McLean and Mr. George Ramville be a committee to visit the pastor, and ascertain if his purpose to remove is so far fixed that he cannot be induced for another term to supply the spiritual wants of this feeble church and destitute region."

That brother Hunt had intended that his resignation should be considered as final appears from the record made a few weeks later; "On Sunday the 27th Sept. 1846, the pastor Mr. Hunt took leave of the church and departed for Horton on Monday." The church doubtless suffered much through the loss of their pastor, as

is indicated by the following minute made about that time. "The church is in a depressed state, but with some favorable indications, supplied chiefly from Halifax." Notwithstanding their shepherdless condition we find the names of seven who were added to the church by baptism at this time.

Early in January 1848, the church now so favourably known as the "North Baptist Church" of Halifax, first appeared in the horizon of our Baptist Churches, and had invited the late Rev'd John Miller then at Windsor to become their pastor.

This event was also to act beneficially in behalf of this church. On Friday 28th of January, 1848, the church resolved unanimously to call the Rev'd John Miller of Windsor, to take the pastoral charge of this church in connection with the North Church recently established in Halifax, a letter was accordingly addressed to brother Miller extending to him an "invitation for one year with the understanding that if arrangements are satisfactory to all parties, it will be extended from year to year and if it please God even for life. The perpetuity of the union must necessarily depend on the success which may attend your ministry." The salary was stated to be fixed at £100 currency for the year to be raised jointly and equally if possible by the two churches. The call was accepted and brother Miller and his family arrived in Halifax during the first week in February 1848. At the association that year the number of members reported from this church was 45. From a copy of a long and very interesting letter sent from this church on that occasion we find mention made for the first time of a Sunday School. It says our Sunday School and Bible Classes attached as they are in an infant congregation are as large as can be expected having about 40 in attendance with a library of about 500 volumes." The letter further states.— "Our members with scarce an exception are friends of the Temperance cause and friendly disposed to every benevolent enterprise. Our contributions are small, and our members being small with means still smaller we can not pledge ourselves to contribute much. We are barely able to supply the half of the smallest salary to our pastor and the poor around us too often languish." Notwithstanding this cry of "Hard Times" they sent forward that year for Foreign Missions £2. 0. 4; Education, £1. 8. 3; Aged Ministers 5/2; Bible Society 10/. Brother Miller's pastorate over this church was not a long one. At the end of his year the North church having found their numbers increasing and their financial condition and outlook so hopeful deemed they required a pastor's whole time and could sustain

one entirely themselves. They accordingly requested brother Miller to devote his whole time to the work of their church. This must have been quite a set back to this small body, but ever equal to an emergency we find them on the 27th of April, 1849, making provision for the future by resolution "that brother McLearn be requested by an address of the church to administer the ordinance of the Lord's Supper and to take some oversight of the flock." The membership reported to the association in 1849 was 42, being 3 less than the year previous. During the year 1850 the membership was further reduced to 35 principally by dismissions to other churches, the baptist churches of our neighbouring Republic then as now receiving the most of them. One member is also reported as having died of smallpox that year leaving a husband and one child. Notwithstanding the church at this time was pastorless and its membership greatly reduced, ecclesiastical authority and discipline were not wanting when the peace and harmony of the church demanded it and such appears to have been administered without respect of persons. As evidence in this direction we find a female member excluded "for ungovernable passions and a slanderous tongue." This is a relic of the year 1850. From 1850 till the year 1858, when the Rev'd R. D. Porter was its pastor the church neglected to report to the association or send a messenger and so far as the records show was in a languishing and feeble state. During these 8 years the membership recorded in the association minutes was invariable, 34 neither less nor more. As a gleam of light however flashed upon this darkness, we find the following under date of August, 1855. "Brother Thomas Crawley took the Mission of this District, several baptisms by Mr. Freeman."

The Rev. Robert D. Porter was the 3rd pastor of this church. He came to Dartmouth in the early fall of 1857, under the direction of the Home Mission Board, and by request of this church was ordained on the 17th September, 1857. With the exception of a very full and interesting account of brother Porter's ordination written by Mr. G. J. Creed, Secretary of the Council, and a later brief note on our church records referring to brother Porter's last Sabbath with this church—we have nothing of record to inform us what took place during his pastorate. From the association minutes for the year, 1858, we find the membership increased from 34 to 42, and in the following year further increased to 48. Brother Porter remained with this church about 2 years. The only entry regarding his pastorate is briefly this: "Lord's day 28th August,

1859, baptized by brother Robert D. Porter, Margaret Coleman, Emma Smith and Ellen Meagher—Brother Porter's last Sabbath." From the entry just read till November, 1867, the writer is unable to discover any record whatever of this church's history. In the minutes of the association from 1860 to 1864 we find no letter or report sent from this church. The membership reported in the minutes for these years was 42.

The membership of a church does not always truly indicate its strength or influence, but from a report made to the Home Mission Board in 1862 by the Rev. R. R. Philp who had laboured as a missionary at Dartmouth and vicinity we can form a pretty correct idea as to how low an ebb the spiritual condition of this church had fallen. He says: "I found the cause at Dartmouth in a very depressed state, they had been for a long time without a stated minister. The result was that the congregation was scattered and the members greatly discouraged. There were a few, however, though faint still pursuing." "At Tuft's Cove my efforts were a complete failure to all appearances. I did not succeed in obtaining a congregation." So feeble and spiritually miserable had the church become during the latter end of this period in its history, that it well nigh fell a victim to the kindness of other denominations, had the few faithful ones of whom brother Philp writes been wanting. From 1865 till 1867 the church received much assistance in a pastoral way from the Rev. A. F. Porter who carried on his work under the direction of the Home Mission Board. During this period the church was visited for several weeks at a time by the late Rev. Obed. Parker, missionary to the Home Mission Board. In one of his reports he says:—"At the commencement of my mission the prospect looked dark and gloomy but obstacles have been removed, the dark cloud is rising and light is beginning to dawn upon this people. The congregation has grown from a few to a goodly number, larger it is said than at any time since the demise of our late and much lamented brother McLearn, and your missionary is encouraged to believe that the cause of God is advancing in Dartmouth. Two have obeyed their Lord in baptism and been added to the church." The number of members reported in 1867 was 27 the smallest since the organization of the church. The Rev. Mr. Hunt shortly after leaving here while at the college at Wolfville was engaged by the Baptist Church at Cunard Cornwallis, to assist in his pastoral work the late Rev. Father Manning, and on the death of Mr. Manning he was called to the pastorate of that church. In 1867 this church being then pastorless extended

a call to Mr. Hunt which he accepted being advised that a change to a smaller and less fatiguing field of labor was necessary to his health, he having previously been prostrated by a long and severe illness. Mr. Hunt and his family arrived here in November of that year. The membership reported to the association the following year was 32. In 1870 Mr. Hunt was appointed Superintendent of Education, but nevertheless feeling that he could never neglect the claims of the high office to which he had been called as a minister of the Gospel he still remained pastor of this church and continued to the close of his life to faithfully and patiently discharge the arduous duties devolving upon him without any remuneration. During the seven years of his second pastorate many souls were won for the Master. At the time of his death the membership of the church was 77.

On Tuesday the 23rd of October, 1877, after a short illness Mr. Hunt calmly and peacefully yielded up his spirit to God who gave it. It would seem superfluous for me to enlarge on the life and labors of Mr. Hunt in connection with this church for they are still fresh in the memory of many in this church and community. The resolutions passed by this church on receiving the solemn announcement of his death bear ample testimony to the high esteem and love in which he was held by all. No attempt was made to fill the vacant pastorate till after the beginning of the next year. In February, 1878, the Rev. John Clark accepted a call from this church and became its pastor for one year. Eight members were added to the church during his pastorate.

During the vacancy occasioned by the retirement of Mr. Clark in February, 1879, among those who were invited to supply the pulpit was the late Rev. Henry A. Spencer then a licentiate and a student in the senior year at Acadia College at Wolfville. After graduating in June of that year he came to Dartmouth and continued to supply this church till September when he was invited to become its pastor for one year.

This year of 1879 may be regarded as a very important one in the history of this church. Those interested in the Baptist cause at Dartmouth had for some time become convinced that the old building in which they were worshipping however useful it had been in the past had grown out of date and was altogether inadequate to their needs. With true courage they faced the problem of a new and more commodious church home, and soon by their own contributions and the generous donations of many outside of the church who wished them God speed in the undertaking money enough was

raised to warrant going forward with the work. The building was speedily completed and on Sunday the 4th day of January, 1880, was formally set apart for public worship. Appropriate dedicatory services were held on that occasion throughout the day. At the morning service the late Rev. Dr. Crawley occupied the pulpit and preached an eloquent and masterly sermon, choosing as his text 1 Kings viii: 27 "Will God indeed dwell on the earth." The afternoon meeting was presided over by the then pastor the late Rev. Henry A. Spencer. At this meeting earnest and interesting addresses were delivered in turn by the Rev. J. W. Manning, Judge Johnston, Hon. Dr. Parker and Rev. Dr. Saunders. The services of this not soon to be forgotten day were brought to a close in the evening by an able discourse by the Rev. Dr. Welton from Zech. vi: 13. With the new church building a new impulse was given to the members and a new interest was soon plainly manifested in all departments of the church's work. Many of the Baptists then residing in Dartmouth who had hitherto withheld their support and had been assisting to build up the Baptist churches across the harbor became convinced of their past errors and of the strange anomaly of their positions and one by one were bringing their letters and uniting with this church. Fourteen new members were enrolled this year. Time will not permit us to consider in detail the several pastorates extending over the period of the last 13 years. The men who directed the affairs of this church during this latter period of her history and their faithful labors in striving to advance her interests are still fresh in our minds, and still continue to have an influence for good in this church and town. Their names and the dates of their several pastorates are as follow:—

Rev. Edward J. Grant	1880—1888
" Charles W. Williams	1888—1891
" Wm. M. Smallman	1891—1893

During the pastorate of Mr. Grant 100 new members were added to this church of these 84 were by baptism.

During this pastorate special effort was made to care for the spiritual needs of the members of this church and others who resided at Tuft's Cove the visible results of which are now seen in the Mission building which was erected there in the fall of 1888 where ever since social services have been held every Sabbath evening and on one week day evening and a Sunday school every Sabbath afternoon.

For some years previous to 1881 this church was receiving financial aid from the Home Mission Board; but during this year it swung entirely clear of its patronage and began to repay through contributions to the "Convention Scheme" so called what the church had hitherto been receiving from them. Over \$1400, has been contributed by this church in this way, during the past ten years.

The Sunday School in connection with this church about which we derive little information from the church records, is an encouraging feature in our organization and gives us strong hopes for the future growth and continuance of our church.

In 1889 and in 1892 in order to effect alterations and improve the condition of our church building a debt had to be incurred, \$1750 of which still remains unliquidated. Through our Mite Society and those who so energetically manage it, it is every year becoming less prominent and we hope all of us to live long enough to see it vanish altogether. During the 50 years history of this church completed on the 29th day of October last, 289 new members have been added to the original 10. Of these 192 were by baptism and 97 by letters from other churches, and by relation of their christian experience. From this number 61 have been dismissed by us to unite with other Baptist churches, 53 have been removed by death, and 33 were excluded. Our total membership on the 29th of October last was 142.

Looking backward over this whole period of fifty years, despite its many seasons of depression and languishing we find much cause for gratitude and praise to our God for his undeserved mercy and wondrous grace to us as a people and we can surely this evening raise our grateful Ebenezers and say "hitherto the Lord has helped us."

Dartmouth Baptist Church, KING STREET.

OFFICERS.

REV. S. BRADFORD KEMPTON, M. A. Pastor.
Residence :—Quarl Street.

WILLIAM L. BARSS, Church Clerk.
Residence :—Ochterloney Street.

THOMAS H. CHAPMAN, Treasurer.
Residence :—Quarl Street.

DEACONS.

JAMES W. JOHNSTON.

JAMES W. GRAHAM.

JAMES GAETZ.

WILLIAM L. BARSS.

HENRY BAKER.

RESIDENT MEMBERS.

(Enrolled May, 31st 1894.)

Atkins, Mrs. M. E., Ochterloney Street.

Baker, Henry, Cole Harbor Road.

Baker, Mrs. Henry, do.

Baker, John, Tulip Street.

Baker, Mrs. John, do.

Baker, Mrs. Judson, Preston Road.

Barss, William L., Ochterloney Street.

Barss, Edith M. C., do.

Berkley, Mrs Chas., Tufts Cove.
 Bettinson, Mrs. John L., Rope Walk Road
 Bishop, Mrs. Watson L., North Street.
 Blakeney, Joseph U., Tulip Street.
 Blakeney, Mrs. Joseph U., do.
 Browne, Joseph D., Water Street
 Browne, Minnie, do.

Chapman, Thomas H., Quarl Street.
 Chapman, Mrs. Thomas H., do.
 Colbert, Mrs. James, Dawson Street.
 Colbert, John, Thistle Street.
 Colbert, Mrs., John, do.
 Colbert, Thomas, Beech Street.
 Colbert, Mrs., Thomas, do.
 Corkum, George, Quarl Street.
 Corkum, Mrs. Henry F., Windmill Road.
 Crimp, Samuel, Tulip Street.
 Crimp, Mrs. Samuel, do.
 Cross, Beatrice, Tobin Road.
 Cross, Blanche, do.

Dares, Mrs. Salter B., Bogg Street.
 Dillman, Louisa.
 Dillman, Matilda, Dundas Street.
 Dillman, William, do.
 Dillman, Mrs. William, do.
 Dunbrack, Emma, Rose Street.

Eisener, Alice, Tufts Cove
 Eisener, Artimus, Preston Road.
 Eisener, Mrs. Artimus, do.
 Eisener, Mrs. Ebenezer, (Sr.) Cole Harbor Road.
 Eisener, Mrs. Ebenezer, (Jr.) South Eastern Passage.
 Eisener, Emma, Tufts Cove.
 Eisener, Josephine, Cole Harbor Road.
 Eisener, Louisa, Tufts Cove.
 Eisener, William, Tobin Road.
 Evans, George, 83 Gottingen Street, Halifax.

Fielding, Benjamin A., 60 South Park Street, Halifax.
 Fielding, William H., Bogg Street.
 Fielding, Mrs. William H., do.
 Fraser, Mrs. Andrew, Water Street.

Gaetz, Carrie, Water Street.
 Gaetz, Freeman, do.
 Gaetz, Ida, do.
 Gaetz, Martha, do.
 Gaetz, James, do.
 Graham, James W. Ochterloney Street.
 Gray, Annie, Windmill Road.
 Gray, Mrs. Harry J., Water Street.

Handley, Lottie, Ochterloney Street.
 Heffler, Lily, Water Street.
 Herman, Eber. J., Quarl Street.
 Herman, Mrs. Eber. J. do.
 Herman, John, Prince William Street.
 Herman, Peter C., (South of) Bogg Street.
 Herman, Mrs. Peter C., do.
 Hume, Mrs. Isaac, Wentworth Street.
 Hume, M. Emma, do.
 Hume, Bessie W., do.
 Hunt, Mrs. Abram S. King Street.
 Hunt, Aubrey S., do.
 Hunt, Mrs. George, Portland Street.
 Hutt, Mrs. Alex., do.

Jackson, Minnie W. Wentworth Street.
 Johnston, Amy E., Quarl Street.
 Johnston, James W., do.

Keeler, Charles J., Crichton Street.
 Keeler, Mrs. Edward, do.
 Keeler, George, do.
 Keeler, Mrs. George, do.
 Keeler, May, do.
 Keeler, Mrs. William, do.
 Keeler, Mrs. William R., do.
 Kempton S. Bradford, Quarl Street.
 Kempton, Mrs. S. Bradford, do.

Laidlaw, Mrs. James A., 77 Tower Road, Halifax.
 Linterman, Matilda, John Street.
 Lydiard, Mrs. Samuel, Cole Harbor Road.

Meagher, Mrs. Edward, Water Street.
 Mosher, Mrs. George, Pine Street.
 McDow, Robert, Old Preston Road.

McDow, Mrs. Robert, Old Preston Road.
 Maclean, John B., Portland Street.
 Maclean, Mrs. John B., do.
 McLeod, Mrs. Neil, Cole Harbor Road.

Newcombe, Mrs. A. Judson, South Eastern Passage.
 Norris, Mrs. Thomas, Tufts Cove.

Parker, William, Tufts Cove.
 Parker, Mrs. William, do.
 Patterson, Mrs. John R., Wentworth Street.
 Payne, George W. 170 Robie Street, Halifax.
 Payne, Mrs. George W., do.
 Pearl, May, Canal Street.

Ross, Mrs. Hugh, Water Street.
 Ross, Mrs. James, Rose Street.

Savage, Ida, Wentworth Street.
 Savage, Mrs. Thomas, do.
 Simpson, Ruth, South Eastern Passage.
 Smith, Mrs. Sarah, Water Street.
 Sterns, Mrs. J. Edwin, do.
 Stuart, Alfred E., do.

Thomas, Mrs. William, Wentworth Street.
 Thomas, Blanche, do.
 Tufts, Charles, Tufts Cove.
 Tufts, George, do.
 Tufts, Mrs. George, do.
 Tufts, Herbert, do.
 Tufts Mrs. Herbert, do.

Waddell, Mrs. Alexander, North Street.
 Waddell, Lete, do.
 Wallace, Mrs. Edward, King Street.
 Wallace, Nettie, do.
 Wambolt, Mrs. Charles, Passage Road.
 Weeks, Charles L., Bogg Street.
 Williams, George, Tulip Street.
 Williams, Mrs. Richard, Ochterloney Street.
 Whitman, Mrs. Levi, Pine Street.
 Whitman Sadie, do.
 Wilson, Sarah, Halifax City.
 Wright, James, Tufts Cove.
 Wright, Mrs. James, do.

NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS.

Arnold, Mrs. James, Amherst, N. S.

Bettinson, Annie, Cambridge Port, Mass., U. S. A.

Brookes, George W., Liverpool, N. S.

Brookes, Nellie, Liverpool, N. S.

Feltmate, Elizabeth—address unknown.

Herman, Neil E., Wolfville, N. S.

Hume, Jemimus, Chester, N. S.

Musgrave, Wells, Boston Mass, U. S. A.

Savary, Mrs. Alfred W., Annapolis, N. S.

Schischkar, Mrs. Henry Poyntz, England, G. B.

Silver, Mrs. Frank, Providence, R. I., U. S. A.

Smallman, William M., Wolfville, N. S.

Smallman, Mrs. William M., do.

Vandergrift, Mrs. James Edward, Oldham, N. S.

Wyle, Mrs. Bessie, Boston Mass, U. S. A.

